secured permanently to the lower ring 11. The strips or standards pass loosely through the slots 12 so that as will be obvious the rings 9, 7 and 6 are capable of sliding thereon. They are prevented from such sliding normally by sliding-keys 14, with which all of the rings 9, 7 and 6 are provided, and which are designed to be passed through corresponding perforations or openings 15 formed in the standards or strips, whereby the rings become locked with the standards or strips. Spring detents 16 may be located in rear of the pins, whereby they are prevented from accidental disengagement with the standards or strips.

Each of the standards or strips at points immediately above the rings when the sections are distended, is jointed as indicated at 17, any suitable form of pivotal joint being employed; in this instance the adjacent ends of the sections of the standards are mortised and tenoned and pivoted as shown.

Any suitable cover may be employed for the barrel and in this instance we have hinged at 18 to the upper ring 6 a reticulated cover 19.

As shown in Fig. 4, the construction indicated in the first three figures of the drawings may be carried out in boxes and crates. In this figure, 19 and 20 designate two telescoping sections, which are rectangular in plan; the upper section is provided with a frame 21 at its upper edge, and at its lower edge with a frame 22 that projects therefrom. The lower section is provided with a bottom frame 23 and at its upper edge with a frame 24 which abuts against the frame 22 of the section 19. Straps or standards 25 extend from the frame 23 loosely through the frames 22 and 21 and are jointed immediately above the lower section 20. Spring detents 26 may be located upon the lower section 20, and serve ordinarily to prevent the collapse of the sections 19 and 20. The straps or standards employed in either of these constructions may be of any suitable material, metal, papier-maché, wood, &c. It will be seen that the barrel or box is capable of being collapsed as its contents are decreased, and when finally it is empty and it is shipped back to the original shipper it may be totally collapsed or telescoped, all within the height of one section. In such telescoping the ring 7 rests upon the ring 9 and the two upon the ring 11. The slides are disconnected of course to permit of this telescoping and the straps or standards 13 being liberated may be readily folded inward by reason of their joints 17. In this manner the barrels or crates may be shipped back to the original shipper at exceedingly cheap rates, and the same barrels may be used over and over again from one season to another. Notwithstanding the fact that the barrel is constructed in the shape of the frustum of a cone inverted, yet by reason of the fact that the several rings that encircle the exterior of the barrel are all of the same diameter, said barrel may be rolled conveniently and in the same manner as if it were entirely cylindrical.

It is to be understood that changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle of sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having described our invention, what we claim is—

1. A shipping barrel, box or crate, consisting of telescopic sections, stops arranged at the ends of the sections to prevent their total disengagement, rings encircling the sections, standards extending loosely through the rings and provided with joints, whereby they may be folded, substantially as specified.

2. A shipping barrel, box or crate combined with a series of telescopic sections, of rings surrounding the same and provided with openings, standards extending from the bottom ring through the openings in the remaining rings, stops for preventing the separation of the sections, and locking devices between the rings and standards, substantially as specified.

3. In a shipping barrel, box or crate, the combination with a series of telescopic cylindrical sections, and stops for preventing the separation of the same, of a series of circular rings embracing the sections and of uniform diameter, the said rings with the exception of the bottom ring having openings, standards secured to the bottom and passing through the openings of the remaining rings and provided above each of said rings with folding joints, and locking devices between the rings and standards, substantially as specified.

4. In a shipping barrel, box or crate, the combination with a series of sections telescopically connected, a series of rings secured to the bottoms of the sections and extending beyond the outer and inner surfaces thereof, a series of rings secured to the upper edges of the intermediate sections and projecting internally, whereby they are adapted to abut against the bottom rings of the sections thereabove, an external ring at the upper edge of the upper section, a series of standards secured to the bottom ring and passing through perforations in the externally projecting rings, joints formed in the standards above said externally projecting rings, with the exception of the uppermost, perforations formed in the standards below the joints, and sliding keys secured to the rings and adapted to engage said perforations, substantially as specified.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

CLIFTON BENNETT DARE.
JULIAN DUANE HALL.

Witnesses:
M. G. FITZ ROY,
FRITZ F. KLOKOW.